Postal Division as the Guntakal Postal Division was a sub-standard division with a total workload of 0.75 units against the required workload of 0.90 units.

(b) and (c) Closure, merger, clubbing of post offices, postal divisions, RMS divisions is not a planned activity. It is done on a case-to-case basis in the country where such post offices, postal and RMS divisions are not justified on the basis of prescribed norms.

Common service centres in rural areas

1053. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had asked the IT industry to make a concerted effort to spread its operations from major metros to secondary cities in the country;

(b) if so, the response received by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had approved establishment of one lakh broad band connected common service centres in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Ministry of Urban Development in coordination with the Department of Information Technology and NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Service companies) had convened a thematic workshop on the Initiatives for setting up of Integrated Modern Township for IT/BPO Industries in Tier II cities with the participation of Chief Secertaries, Secretaries Urban Development/Local Self Government, Secretaries (IT) from various States/ UTs and also representatives of the concerned Central Ministries and representative of NASSCOM. The template suggesting a framework as guidelines has been circulated to the States.

(c) and (d) The Government has recently approved a Scheme for providing support for establishing 100,000 broadband, Internet enabled, Common Service Centres (CSCs) in rural areas of the country. These Centres would

be opened in the ratio of 1 CSC for every 6 Census villages in a State. These Centres would provide a mix of Government and private services in rural areas. The Scheme is to be implemented on public private partnership basis. The full details of the Scheme are available in the CSC guidelines which are accessible at *www.mit.gov.in.*

Controlling of unwanted calls

1054. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop a system to control unwanted calls and to punish the violators;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time-frame within which this system would be put in operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) The issue unsolicited commercial communication has been raised at various forums, which has been taken note of by the Government.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has issued a consultation paper on 20-11-2006 regarding "Unsolicited Commercial Communication".

Instructions have been issued to all the Telecom Service Providers to take strict measures to stop any possible unauthorized sale of their customer information by their employees.

Some of the mobile/telephone companies are providing Do Not Disturb (DND) register facility to their customers which can be availed free of cost.

New post offices in NER

1055. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for setting up of new post offices in rural areas of NER pending with Government, State-wise/location-wise;